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## PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

### UNITED STATES.

#### *Collection of statistics of disease spread by milk—Circular.*

With a view to collecting information regarding cases of disease or epidemics spread by milk, a circular, dated August 28, 1907, from which the following is an extract, has been sent to State and local health officers and other sanitarians requesting them to report to the Bureau not later than October 15, 1907, any cases of disease or epidemics caused by milk of which they have knowledge:

In the study of the sanitary milk problem undertaken by this Bureau at the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury and the President, it is desired to make a compilation of all authentic cases in which disease has been spread by milk. This will include cases where milk has been the undoubted means of carrying an infectious disease to one or more persons. Whereas, in the light of present knowledge, the greatest interest centers in cases of typhoid fever, diphtheria, and scarlet fever spread by this means, yet the report of other diseases carried in this way is also desired.

It is believed that although many epidemics caused by milk have been reported in the printed reports of boards of health and in the medical journals, a greater number known to medical men have not been so reported.

A blank form for making the reports is furnished by the Bureau.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

#### *Plague at San Francisco, Cal.—Service assumes charge of campaign against plague.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon Blue reports:

September 13. Three cases plague reported yesterday at Van Ness avenue and Bay street. Total cases to date, 25; total deaths, 10.

September 14. Chinaman, Sacramento street, died September 11 at City and County Hospital; diagnosis of plague confirmed by autopsy.

September 17. Board of supervisors appropriated to-day \$25,000 to defray plague expenses for September and gave absolute assurance of \$20,000 per month for conduct of future plague measures. Believe this amount will be sufficient. I will assume, in cooperation with board of health, direction and supervision of campaign against plague, agreeing to furnish laboratory and place 12 medical men on the duty. City agrees to employ 36 sanitary inspectors in addition to regular establishment, furnish transportation and

office, headquarters in 12 districts, sufficient number of laborers, and all necessary supplies and equipment.

Full record up to this date shows 30 positive cases, 18 deaths, and 12 under treatment.

Doctor Blue was authorized September 17 to employ 6 acting assistant surgeons in addition to the medical officers already on duty at San Francisco.

STATISTICAL REPORTS OF MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY, STATES AND CITIES  
OF THE UNITED STATES—UNTABULATED.

CALIFORNIA—*Stockton*.—Month of June,<sup>a</sup> 1907. Estimated population, 23,000. Total number of deaths, 22, including 1 from tuberculosis.

COLORADO.—Month of July, 1907. Estimated population, 615,570. Reports to the State board of health show as follows: Diphtheria, 79 cases, 6 deaths; enteric fever, 274 cases, 32 deaths; scarlet fever, 222 cases, 16 deaths; smallpox, 65 cases and no deaths. Total number of deaths from all causes, 942.

FLORIDA.—Reports to the State board of health for the week ended September 7, 1907, show as follows: Diphtheria—*Jacksonville*, 1 case; *Tampa*, 2 cases. Enteric fever—*Jacksonville*, 1 case; *Tampa*, 2 cases. Malarial fever—*Jacksonville*, 2 cases. Tuberculosis—*Tampa*, 1 case.

ILLINOIS—*Alton*.—Month of August, 1907. Estimated population, 17,000. Total number of deaths, 20, including enteric fever 1, whooping cough 1, and 4 from tuberculosis. Cases: Enteric fever 1, whooping cough 1, and tuberculosis 4.

IOWA—*Cedar Rapids*.—Month of August, 1907. Estimated population, 30,000. Total number of deaths, 44, including 2 from tuberculosis. Cases: Scarlet fever 10.

*Davenport*.—Month of August, 1907. Estimated population, 45,000. Total number of deaths not reported. Two deaths from diphtheria. Cases: Diphtheria 11 and scarlet fever 1.

MINNESOTA.—Month of July, 1907. Estimated population, 1,979,658. Reports to the State board of health show as follows: Total number of deaths, 1,001, including diphtheria 23, enteric fever 14, scarlet fever 6, whooping cough 5, and 116 from tuberculosis. Deaths reported from State institutions during the month numbered 27, including diphtheria 1 and 3 from tuberculosis.

*St. Paul*.—Month of July, 1907. Estimated population, 210,000. Total number of deaths reported to the department of health, 130, including diphtheria 3, enteric fever 2, scarlet fever 1, whooping cough 1, and 24 from tuberculosis. Cases of contagious diseases reported: Diphtheria 36, scarlet fever 12, and smallpox 19.

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<sup>a</sup> For month of July, 1907, see Public Health Reports, August 16, 1907.